

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

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COUNTRY East Germany

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SUBJECT East German Railroad Administration Information

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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Missions assigned to this organization include:

- a. Protection of all railroad installations;
- b. Maintenance of order in the area of the installations;
- c. Protection of railroad installations against acts of sabotage and espionage;
- d. Prevention of thefts.

The decree establishes that each area to be guarded is to be sub-divided into patrol areas and that railroad guards are to be armed with carbines or pistols. The result of patrols, which are to be made at irregular intervals, will be entered in the guard book.¹

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on the establishment of five special commissions charged with the registration of surplus construction materials, such as rails, ties, switches, small iron fittings and bridge girders. The five commissions were assigned the following railroad districts:

| Numerical Designation of Commission | Railroad District or Installations Assigned |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| I | Cottbus and Dresden |
| II | Halle and Erfurt |
| III | Magdeburg, Schwerin and Greifswald |
| IV | Berlin |
| V | permanent way material dumps and reconditioning installations in all railroad districts. ² |

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

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3. [redacted]
[redacted] Designs drawn up at the Design Bureau of the Directorate General, Railroads, Berlin, (DDR), or at the regional railroad headquarters will no longer be checked by the chiefs of the construction departments attached to the individual regional railroad headquarters, but by special control engineers assigned to the DDR. Their checks will have to cover the following points:

- a. Appropriateness of designs and construction materials chosen;
- b. Observance of all valid regulations relative to the quality of construction materials to be used, compliance with DIN (German Industrial Standards) norms and all other regulations laid down for construction projects;
- c. Efficiency of the designs submitted, particularly with regard to a minimum utilization of materials, which are in short supply;
- d. Checking of all prices and figures carried in estimates of cost and of all measurements recorded on designs.
- e. Completeness of construction records and designs.

The checks will have to be approved by the president of regional railroad headquarters for construction projects costing up to 500,000 eastmarks; by the Director General, Railroads, Berlin, for projects costing up to one million eastmarks; and the Minister of Traffic for projects whose costs exceed one million eastmarks.

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1. [redacted] Comment. The tightening of security measures by the East German railroad administration led to the organization of a special railroad police. This special police appeared in the new organizational plan of the East German Railroads, which went into effect on 1 August 1952. See [redacted]

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2. [redacted] Comment. This measure was necessitated by the critical situation existing in permanent way materials. On 1 August 1952, 300 km of rails were still lacking for construction projects scheduled to be carried out in 1952. [redacted] For this reason, a special commissioner charged with the procurement of rails and ties was appointed. [redacted] The newly established special control commissions will operate under this commissioner.

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3. [redacted] Comment. Information on the establishment of this design bureau was transmitted previously. [redacted]. The employment of special control engineers and the approval of checks by the presidents of regional railroad headquarters, the Director General, Railroads, Berlin, and the Minister of Traffic were probably in order to guarantee a maximum degree of economy and personal responsibility regarding railroad construction projects.

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